



Economic and Social Council

GENERAL

E/ECE/1209
8 March 1990

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Forty-fifth session
(Provisional Agenda item 7(d))

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY

(Commission decision D (44))

Report by the Executive Secretary

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 3 of decision D (44).
2. In operative paragraph 2 of the above decision, the Commission "requests the Executive Secretary to ensure sufficient progress in the implementation of the current work programme to optimize success at the meeting [of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy] in autumn 1990".
3. The work programme in the general energy field (ECE/ENERGY/13, Annex I) was implemented as follows:
 - A. Programme element 1.2: Interrelationships between environmental and energy policies
4. The study on the above subject (ENERGY/AC.10/R.2) was prepared along the lines agreed upon by a Preparatory Meeting held in 18 May 1989 (ENERGY/AC.10/2). The draft was amended and approved by an ad hoc meeting held from 29 to 31 January 1990 (ENERGY/AC.10/4), which also took note of its addenda.

B. Programme element 2.2: New and renewable sources of energy

5. Within the context of the mandate of the Senior Advisers to organize exchanges of views and information on new and renewable sources of energy between experts by means of seminars and symposia on issues, including advanced photovoltaic systems, an invitation was received from the Government of the USSR to hold a Seminar on Solar Power Systems in that country on 22-26 April 1991. A Preparatory Meeting for this Seminar was held on 1 February 1990 at which the seminar programme was agreed. The Preparatory Meeting noted that at least a year was necessary to prepare the Seminar, and that the dates of the seventh session of the Senior Advisers had not yet been determined. It requested the secretariat, therefore, to "submit the report on its meeting to the forty-fifth session of the Commission, for approval." (ENERGY/SEM.10/AC/2, paragraph 5(a)).

6. The secretariat undertook a survey of co-operative ventures in the field of new and renewable sources of energy between the USSR and other countries including developing countries. The results of the survey will be published. Advisory services were rendered to the Government of Turkey relating to a plan of establishing a Mediterranean network for renewable energy (M.O.R.E). The secretariat participated in a pre-feasibility survey carried out by United Nations Headquarters with a view to establishing a global network of R & D centres for new and renewable sources of energy and contributed a background document on "NRSE and the environment" (ENERGY/AC.10/R.2/Add.7), for consideration by the Inter-Governmental Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy at its fifth session in March 1990.

C. Programme element 2.3(i): Optimum use of primary energy resources in final heat consumption

7. A Symposium on the above subject took place in Prague (Czechoslovakia) from 5-9 June 1989 (ENERGY/SEM.7/2) which approved recommendations to ECE Governments, the Senior Advisers on Energy and other competent bodies of ECE.

D. Programme element 3.1(ii): East-West energy trade in the context of world energy trade

8. The secretariat issued the data for 1988 (ENERGY/R.50) and for 1989 (ENERGY/R.52).

E. Sub-programme 4: Energy conservation

10. Programme element 4.1 on "Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region" was implemented by means of a secretariat paper entitled "Scope and conditions for enhancing energy efficiency in the ECE region" (ENERGY/AC.10/R.2/Add.5) considered at the Ad hoc Meeting on the Study on the Interrelationships between Environmental and Energy Policies (see paragraph 4 above).

11. The secretariat contributed an Annual Report on the "Macro-economic and Energy Policy Context of Industrial Energy Conservation Policies in the ECE Region" to the UNDP-UNIDO Industrial Energy Conservation Network (DP/RER/83/003) in which ECE serves as associated agency.

12. Programme element 4.2(iv) on the "Dissemination of the manual of best national practices in energy-efficient technologies" was implemented by means of a publication entitled "Energy efficiency in European industry".

13. A Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on "Energy efficiency measures in industry" (Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, 1991) (programme element 4.2(v)) was held on 7 and 8 November 1989. The meeting approved a programme for the Symposium (ENERGY/SEM.9/AC/2) and an information notice has been issued (ENERGY/SEM.9/INF.1).

14. The UNDP-ECE Project on Solar Applications and Energy Efficiency in Building Design and Town Planning began a new phase of its work at its second Technical Experts Committee meeting held in Valletta (Malta) during May 1989. International consultants to the Project visited all participating countries to produce national surveys of the energy efficiency of the built environment.

F. Sub-programme 5: General energy statistics

15. The Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, Volume XX, referring to 1987 and the "Energy Balances for Europe and North America, 1970-2000" were published. To the extent replies permitted, the Energy Data Bank was updated and extended to 2010, through the "Questionnaire on selected energy issues".

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16. In the light of the above, the Commission may wish

(a) to take note of the reports of

- (i) the Executive Secretary on Co-operation in the field of energy (E/ECE/1209),
- (ii) the Ad hoc Meeting on the Study on the Interrelationships between Environmental and Energy Policies (ENERGY/AC.10/4),
- (iii) the Symposium on the Optimum Use of Primary Energy Resources in Final Heat Consumption (Prague, Czechoslovakia, 5-9 June 1989) (ENERGY/SEM.7/2);

(b) to approve, subject to review by the seventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy, further preparations for the Seminar on Solar Power Systems (USSR, April 1991) (ENERGY/SEM.10/AC/2) and the Symposium on Energy Efficiency Measures in Industry (Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, 1991) (ENERGY/SEM.9/AC/2);

(c) to fix the dates for the seventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy at [29 October - 1 November 1990];

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

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8 January 1990

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Forty-fifth session

(Provisional Agenda item 7(e))

EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION

(Commission decision F (44))

Report by the Executive Secretary

1. This report has been prepared in response to operative paragraph 2 of decision F (44).

2. In operative paragraph 1 of decision F (44), the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology were requested to:

(a) consider the conclusions and recommendations of the Lisbon Seminar with a view to identifying activities within the ECE region which might contribute, within existing resources, to follow-up action in the framework of ECE taking also into account the work being undertaken in other fora;

(b) consider convening an ad hoc meeting of experts to formulate concrete proposals in particular on the possibilities of:

- (i) establishing a network of appropriate bodies at a national level and non-governmental organizations active in this field;
- (ii) setting up test sites in order to provide data for broad-based co-operation within the region;
- (iii) convening an international meeting of experts on earthquake prediction, monitoring facilities and techniques, in the USSR in 1991.

3. At their seventeenth session in September 1989, the Senior Advisers considered the Report of the Seminar on the Prediction of Earthquakes held in Lisbon (Madrid) from 14 to 18 November 1988 as well as decision F (44) and agreed:

- " (a) To take note of the Report of the Seminar (SC.TECH./SEM.16/2) as well as the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;
- (b) To thank the Government of Portugal for the excellent organization of the Seminar and the facilities provided;
- (c) In principle, to convene an ad hoc meeting of experts, in Geneva towards the end of 1990, to formulate proposals on the follow-up to the Lisbon Seminar;
- (d) To invite Governments to communicate to the secretariat before April 1990 possible topics for consideration by the meeting on the basis of which the secretariat will prepare a note for SAST-18 containing possible topics for the agenda of the meeting;
- (e) To take at SAST-18 a decision concerning the convening of an ad hoc meeting;
- (f) To consider also at SAST-18 the possibility of organizing in the USSR in 1991 an international symposium on earthquake prediction, monitoring facilities and techniques, on the basis of a proposal to be prepared by the USSR; and
- (g) To derestrict the Report of the Seminar together with the papers presented." (ECE/SC.TECH/37, para. 49)

5. An account of the discussion by the Senior Advisers can be found in paragraphs 45 to 48 of the report of their seventeenth session (ECE/SC.TECH/37).

6. In a letter dated 30 November 1989, the Executive Secretary invited Governments to communicate to the secretariat, before April 1990, possible topics for consideration by an ad hoc meeting of experts. On the basis of communications received, the secretariat will prepare a note for the eighteenth session of the Senior Advisers containing possible topics for the agenda of the ad hoc meeting.

7. In the preambular paragraphs to decision F (44) the Commission recalled General Assembly resolutions 42/169, which designated the 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and 43/202, which called upon all Governments further to prepare for participation in the Decade. The Commission may wish to consider the provisions of the resolution adopted by the Assembly at its forty-fourth session (contained in A/C.2/44/L.31/Rev.1) which call upon the regional commissions to play an active role in implementing the activities of the Decade (see also document E/ECE/1200).